

the examination of the fæces for ova will give the most certain information as to the presence of these parasites, and measures to make sure that in districts frequently affected by this worm-disease no *Syngami* are introduced at the purchase of new birds, are of the greatest prophylactic value. If the disease make its appearance in great extent, various ways must be adopted, according to the localities, in order to prevent the food-vessels from being contaminated by the fæces or other ejecta, and the soil in damp spots from forming breeding-places from which fresh infections of the birds may continually take place. The custom of many bird-fanciers, of throwing the carcasses of birds among their meal-worms, "in order to make the worms fat," is very well fitted, in the case of the carcasses containing *Syngamus*, to disseminate the ova, which would be readily developed in the moist and warm mass with the meal-worms, and to transfer them, with the latter, into birds.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES.

Figures of Characteristic British Fossils, with Descriptive Remarks.

By W. H. BAILY, F.L.S., F.G.S., &c. Part III. Plates 21-30.

Upper Silurian and Devonian. Svo. London: Van Voorst, 1871.

THE three parts of this work that have now been published contain 30 lithographic plates, illustrating 504 fossils and their parts, together with explanations and descriptive remarks, which are further illustrated by several woodcuts. With the author's guidance we have learned the meaning of the ancient relics of primæval creatures, which he has arranged for us out of quarry and cabinet, and can value them truly as medals of creation and trustworthy indications of past times and conditions, as the numismatist uses his coins and tokens. Mr. Baily explains the nature of the different types of the great groups of the animal and vegetable kingdoms as they come successively, in relative abundance, in the several formations, and supplies plentiful references to the describers of fossil species, and takes trouble to indicate the distribution of the several typical fossils that his correct judgment leads him to lay before his reader.

We are promised that "Part IV. will complete the Palæozoic division of strata, and conclude vol. i.;" and another such set for "the Secondary" and another for the "Tertiary" strata and fossils will make up the useful and trustworthy work, of which we have had so good a beginning. Though the lithographs are rather woolly, there is no doubt of their accuracy; for the accomplished author cares for them himself. A few *errata* of greater or less importance will have to be noticed:—*Gothlandicus* for *Gotlandicus*, *Calenterata* for *Cœlenterata*, *Cymbæformis* for *Cymbæformis*, *Loxonoma* for *Loxonema*, *Astrea* for *Astræa*; and at p. xlvii, line 23, has *for* have.

In this Part 3rd of Mr. Baily's book of fossils we have:—Mollusks and Crustaceans from the Wenlock rocks; a Coral, Echinoderms, Mollusks, Crustaceans, and Fish-remains from the Ludlow strata; Plants, Corals, Crinoids, and Brachiopods from the Devonian formations. We recognize the results of much research among modern works; but occasionally the author has omitted a point, such as Ray Lankester's correction of the generic alliance of *Scaphaspis* (olim *Pteraspis*) *truncatus*, and Harley's determination of the figured *Plectrodus*-remains not being jaw and teeth, but prickly processes of cephalic shields. Doubtless such corrections, reminding us of the very extensive field a palæontologist has to work over, will be noticed for the student in the sequel of the palæozoic chapters.

Both to student and advanced geologist, and to every one wishing to know what fossils are, to what they belong, and what they teach, we cordially recommend this lucid and well-arranged work. It is written and illustrated by a painstaking and practical geologist, highly esteemed as an authority among palæontologists; and he is entitled to great credit for its fulness of information and for the conscientious and judicious treatment of the manifold matters which he has to bring within its limit.

A Manual of Zoology for the use of Students, with a General Introduction on the Principles of Zoology. By HENRY ALLEYNE NICHOLSON, M.D. &c. Second Edition, revised and considerably enlarged. Small 8vo. Blackwood: Edinburgh and London, 1871.

It is little more than a year since we called attention to the completion of Dr. Nicholson's 'Manual of Zoology;' and we are glad to find that the favourable opinion which we then expressed of it is confirmed by the circumstance that already a second edition has been called for. Having noticed the work so recently, we need add little to what we have already said about it; it is still essentially the same book; but some slight errors have been corrected, and considerable additions have been made to some parts of it, especially in the account of the Vertebrata. It is gratifying to our feelings, as critics, that several of the errors and omissions pointed out in our former notice have been corrected or supplied; we can only hope that Dr. Nicholson may speedily have an opportunity of considering whether he will not, in a new edition, adopt one or two more of our suggestions.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Osteology of the Solitaire.

To the Editors of the Annals and Magazine of Natural History.

GENTLEMEN,—Prof. Newton writes that he and his brother "made personal and explicit inquiry" of me "respecting the fate" of certain bones of the Solitaire.

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